



KNUCKLES: THE RETURN
PART 1 OF 4

#9

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SEGA[®]

SONIC UNIVERSE[™]



Tracy Yardley!
ALINZEKER

Welcome to the planet Mobius – a world unique and beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Knuckles the Echidna, guardian of Angel Island, defends his friends and homeland from the forces of evil!



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ALWAYS BLUNT, THAT ONE!

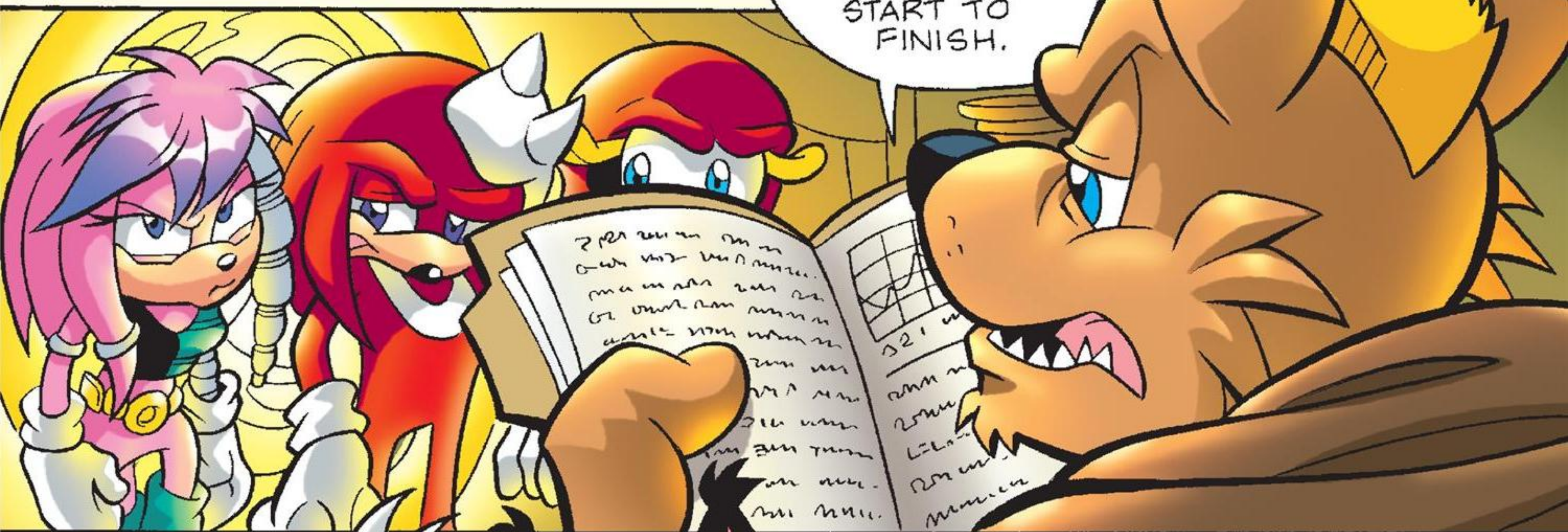
THE FILES, PLEASE,

RIGHT-O, BOSS!



I CALLED YOU HERE BECAUSE YOU LIED TO ME,

LIED?



ONE OF MY SCOUT TEAMS FOUND THE LAB OF DR. FINITEVUS. THIS IS A HARD COPY OF HIS NOTES ON "PROJECT ENERJAK: REBORN". IT DETAILS EVERYTHING, FROM START TO FINISH.

CATWEAZLE
LOUD-MOUTH

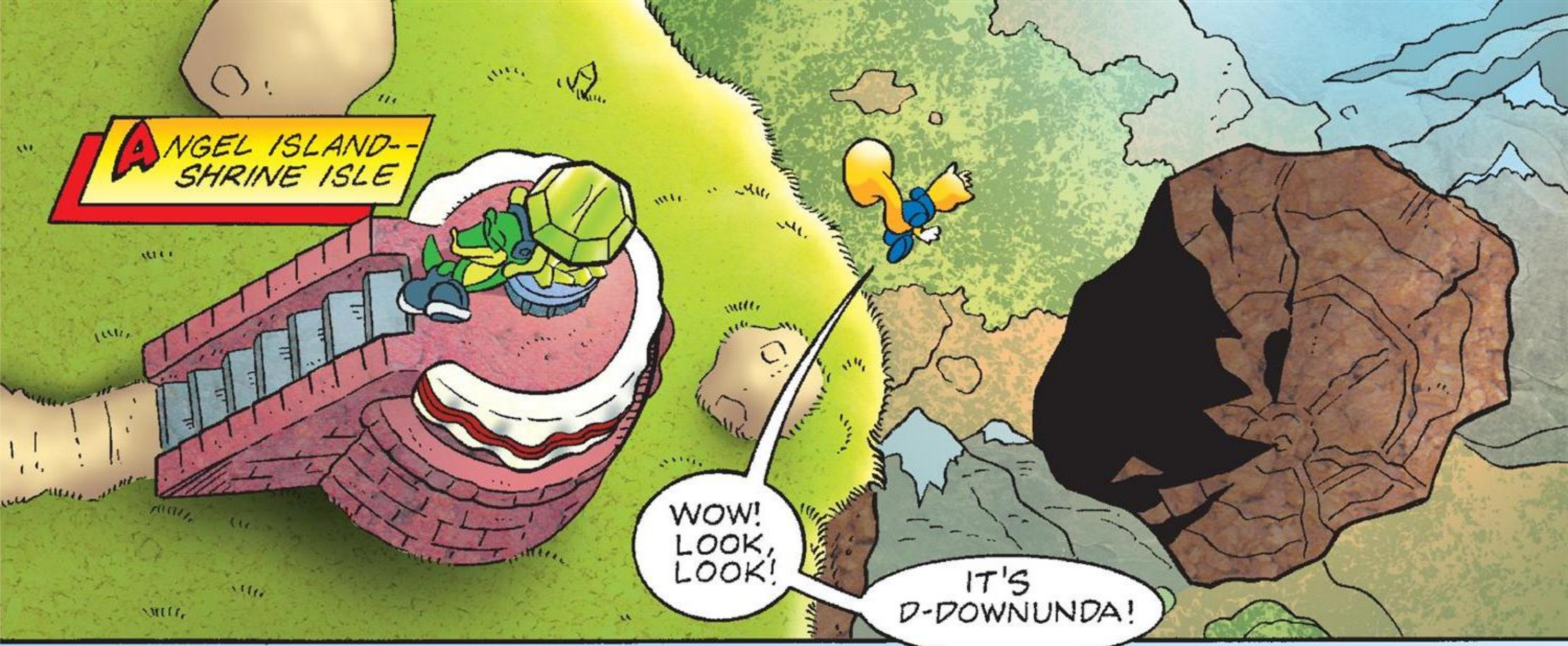
GEN. HELMUT VON STRYKER
LEADER OF THE DINGOES



IT'S BEEN ENLIGHTENING, AND IT PROVES THAT EVERYTHING **WASN'T** YOUR FAULT.*

*"EVERYTHING" BEING THE EPIC FROM STH#180-184

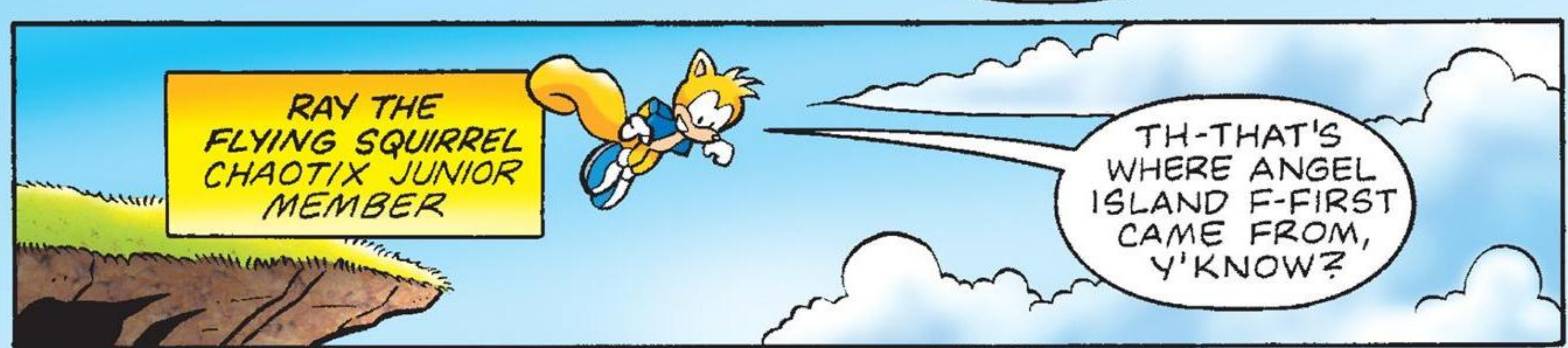




ANGEL ISLAND--
SHRINE ISLE

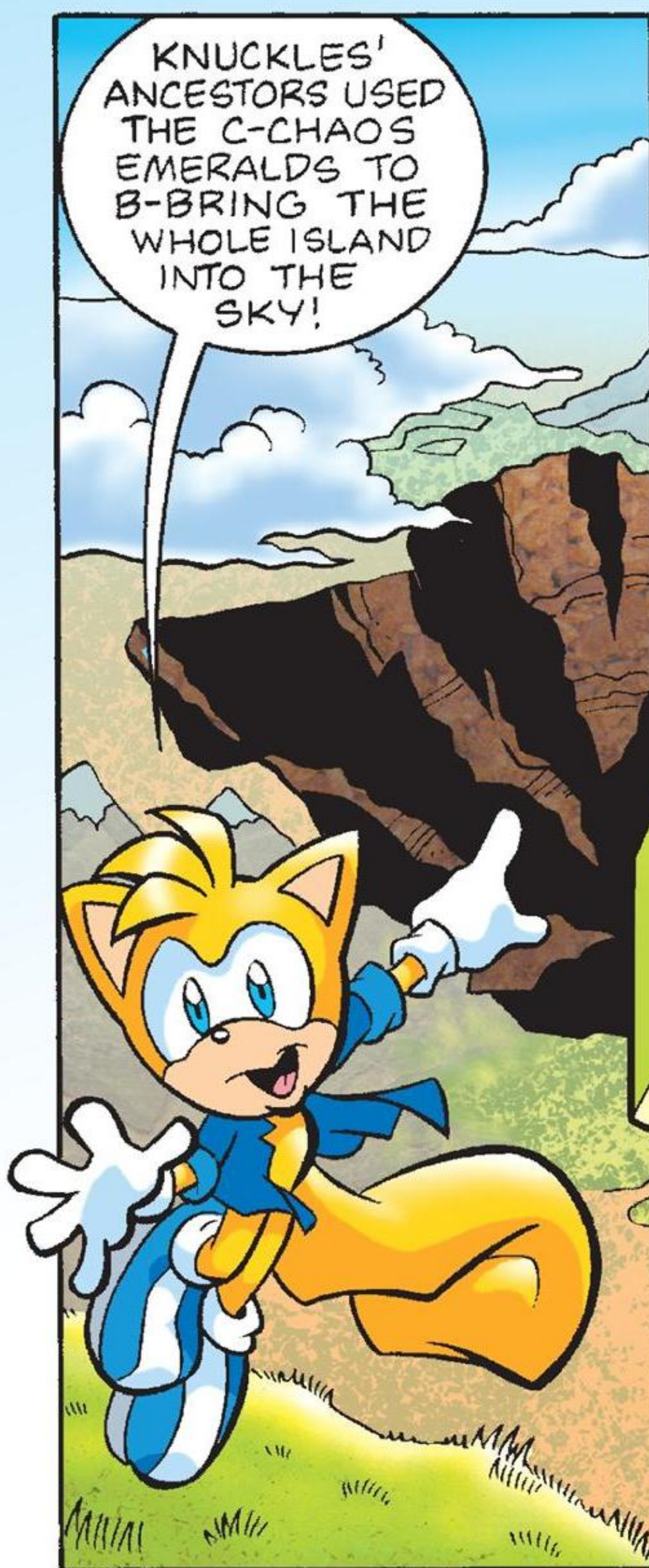
WOW!
LOOK,
LOOK!

IT'S
D-DOWNUNDA!



RAY THE
FLYING SQUIRREL
CHAOTIX JUNIOR
MEMBER

TH-THAT'S
WHERE ANGEL
ISLAND F-FIRST
CAME FROM,
Y'KNOW?



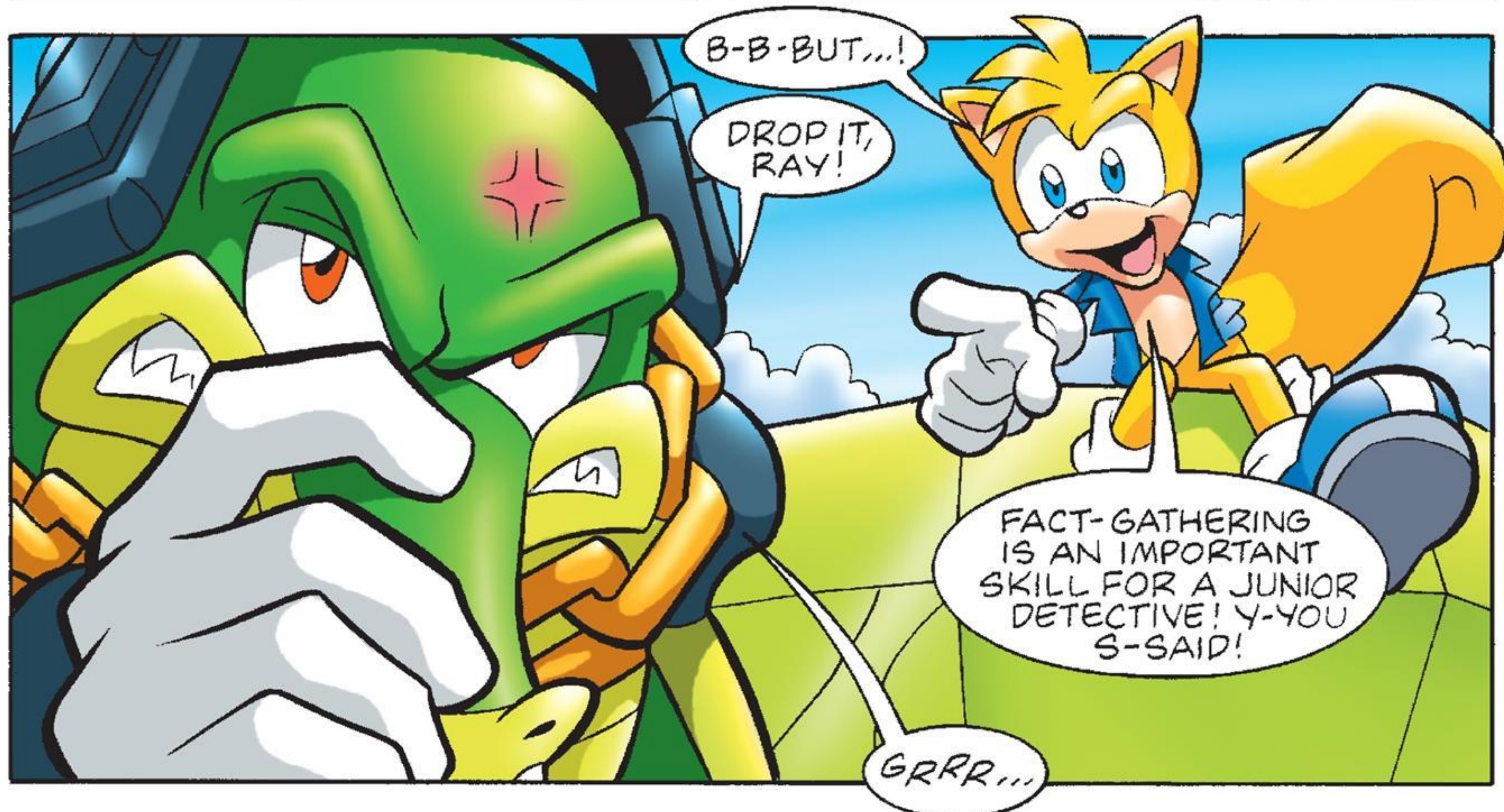
KNUCKLES'
ANCESTORS USED
THE C-CHAOS
EMERALDS TO
B-BRING THE
WHOLE ISLAND
INTO THE
SKY!



YEAH,
AND I
COULDN'T LEAVE
THERE FAST
ENOUGH WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE.

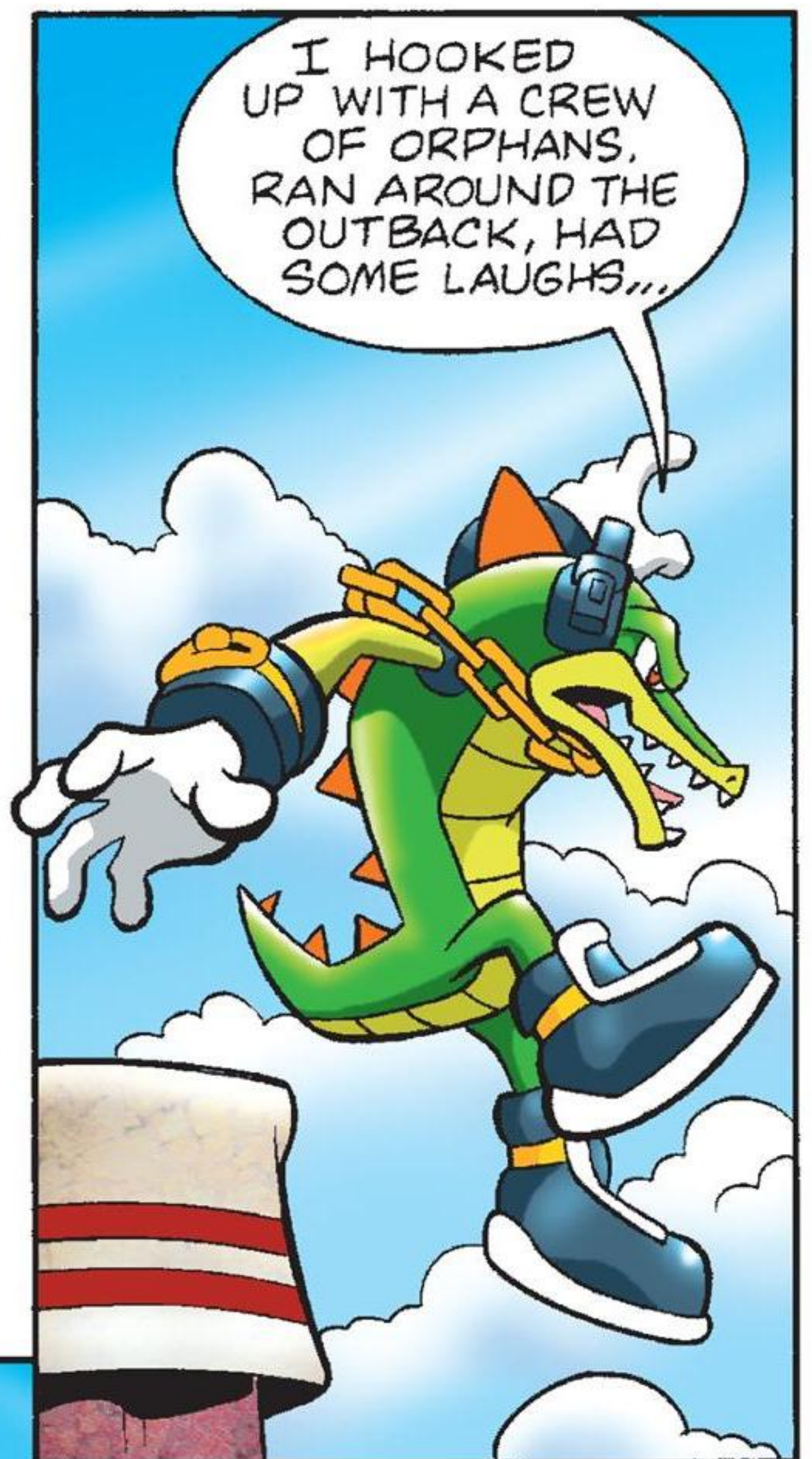
Y-YOU
CAME FROM
D-DOWNUNDA?

VECTOR THE
CROCODILE
CHAOTIX DE FACTO
LEADER





THERE'S NOT MUCH TO TELL. I WAS HATCHED THERE, BUT I NEVER KNEW MY FOLKS.



I HOOKED UP WITH A CREW OF ORPHANS, RAN AROUND THE OUTBACK, HAD SOME LAUGHS...

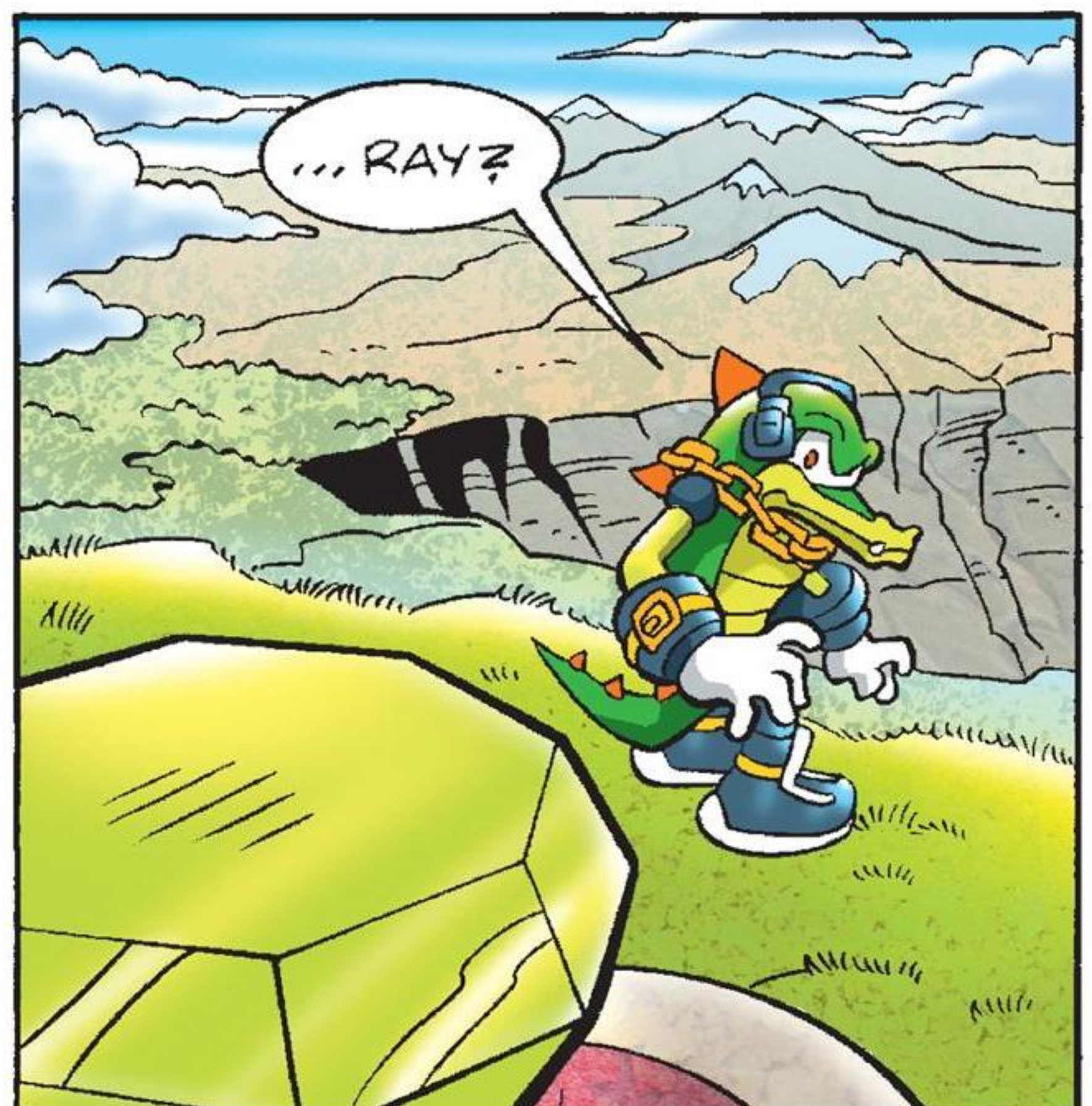


AND... THEN THINGS WENT SOUTH. I BUILT A GYROCOPTER* AND GOT OUT OF THERE. THAT'S IT.

* WE SAW IT IN STH #120



AND IF YOU WANT ANYTHING MORE, YOU CAN BUZZ OFF!

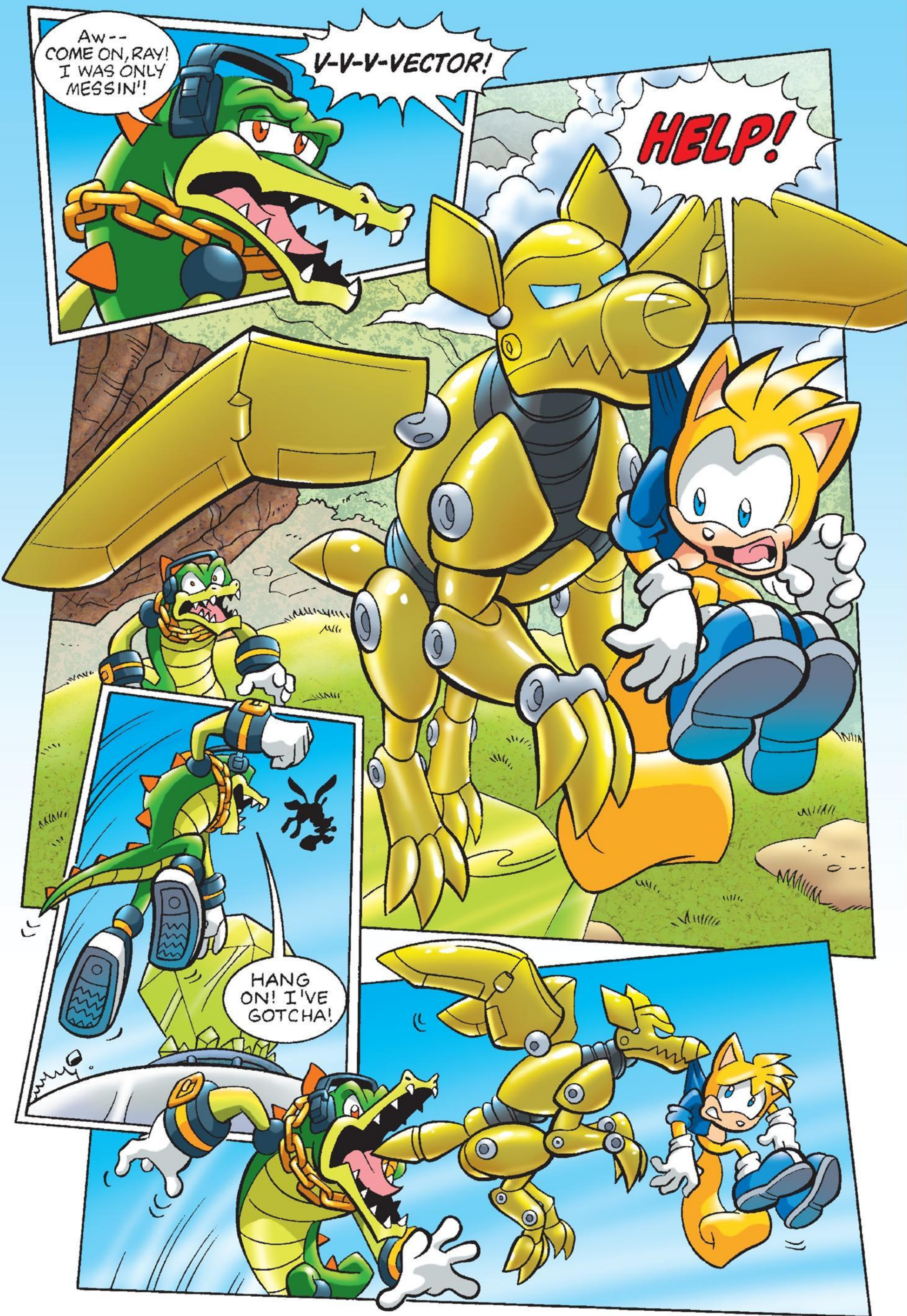


...RAY?

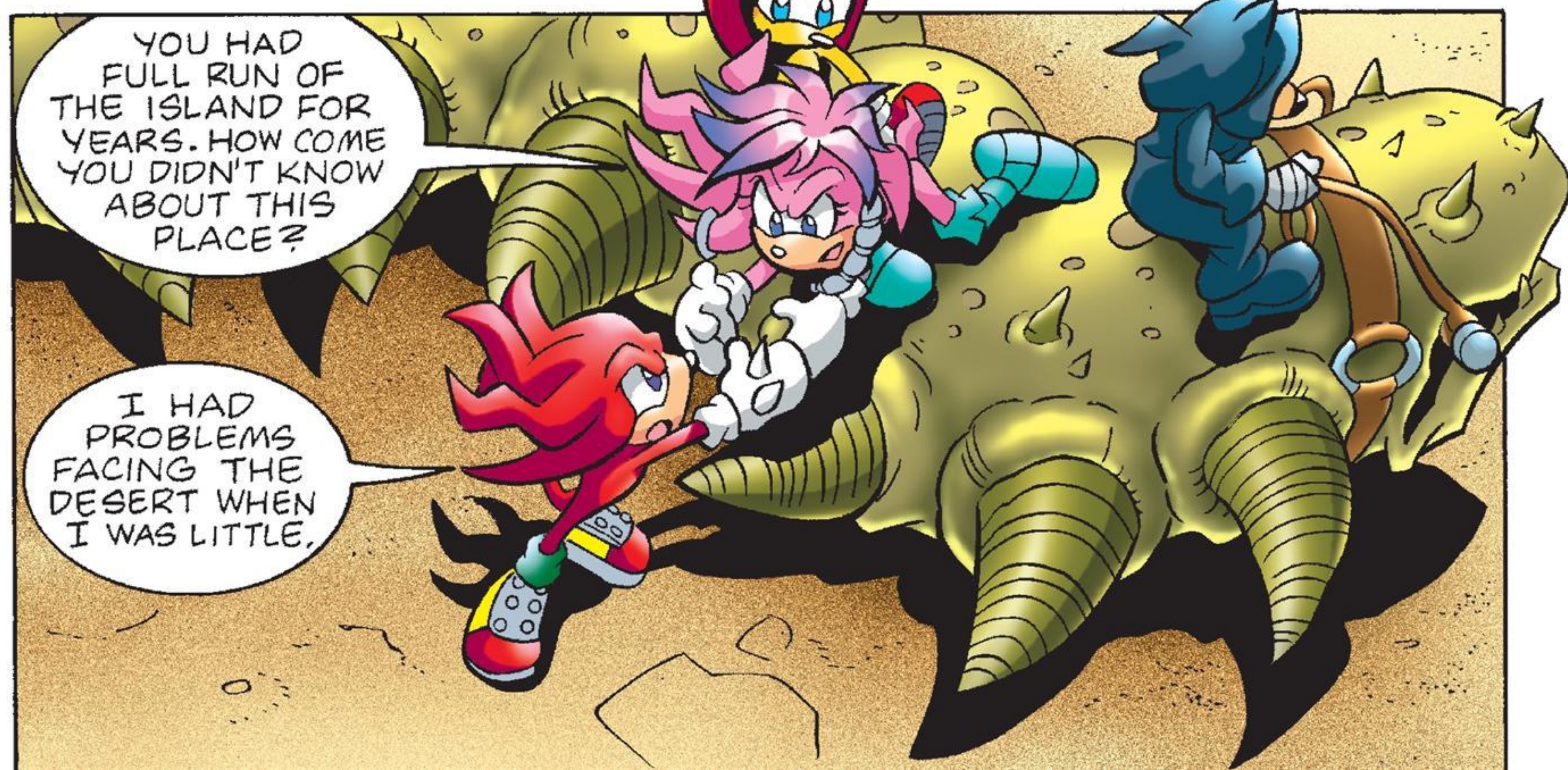
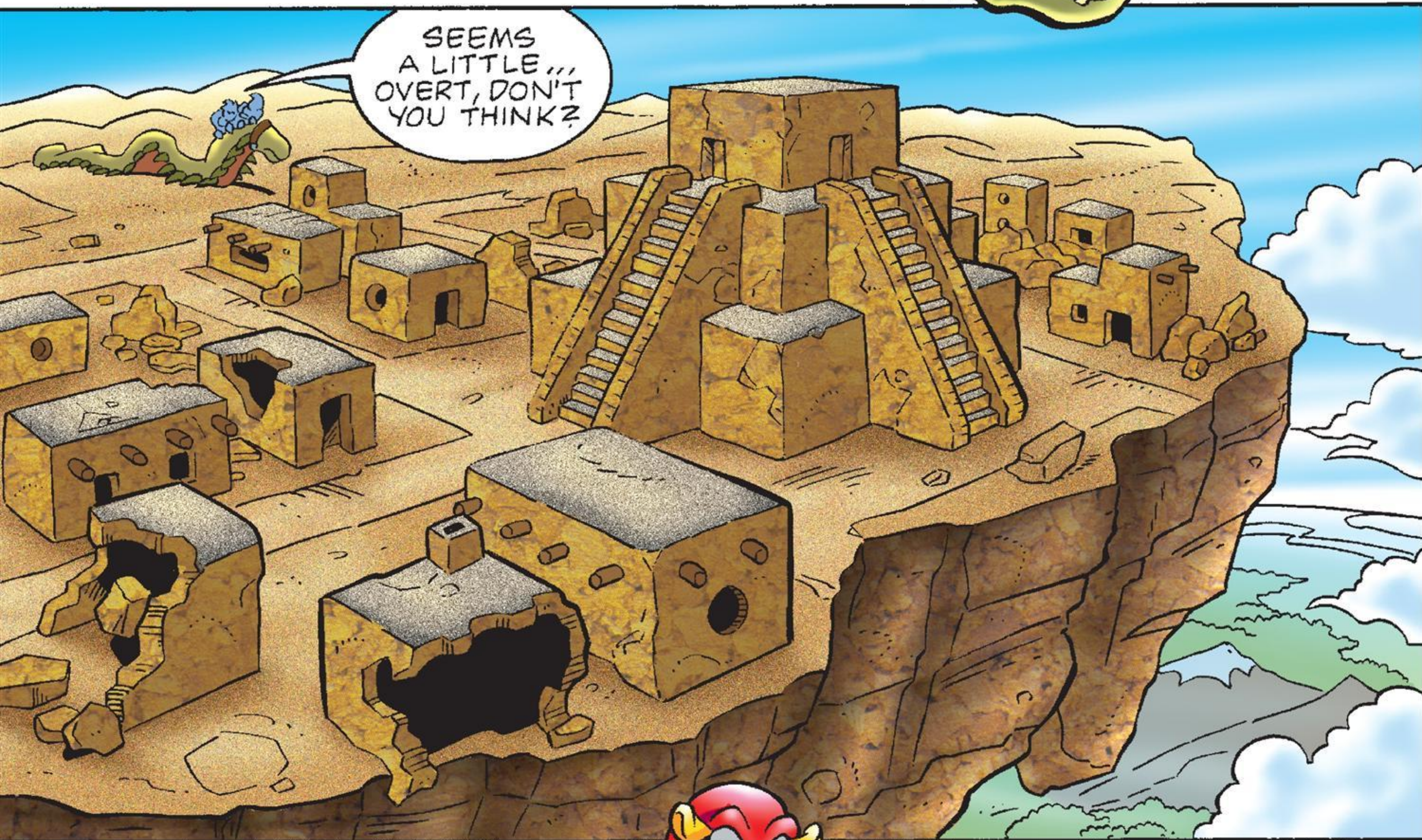
Aw--
COME ON, RAY!
I WAS ONLY
MESSIN'!

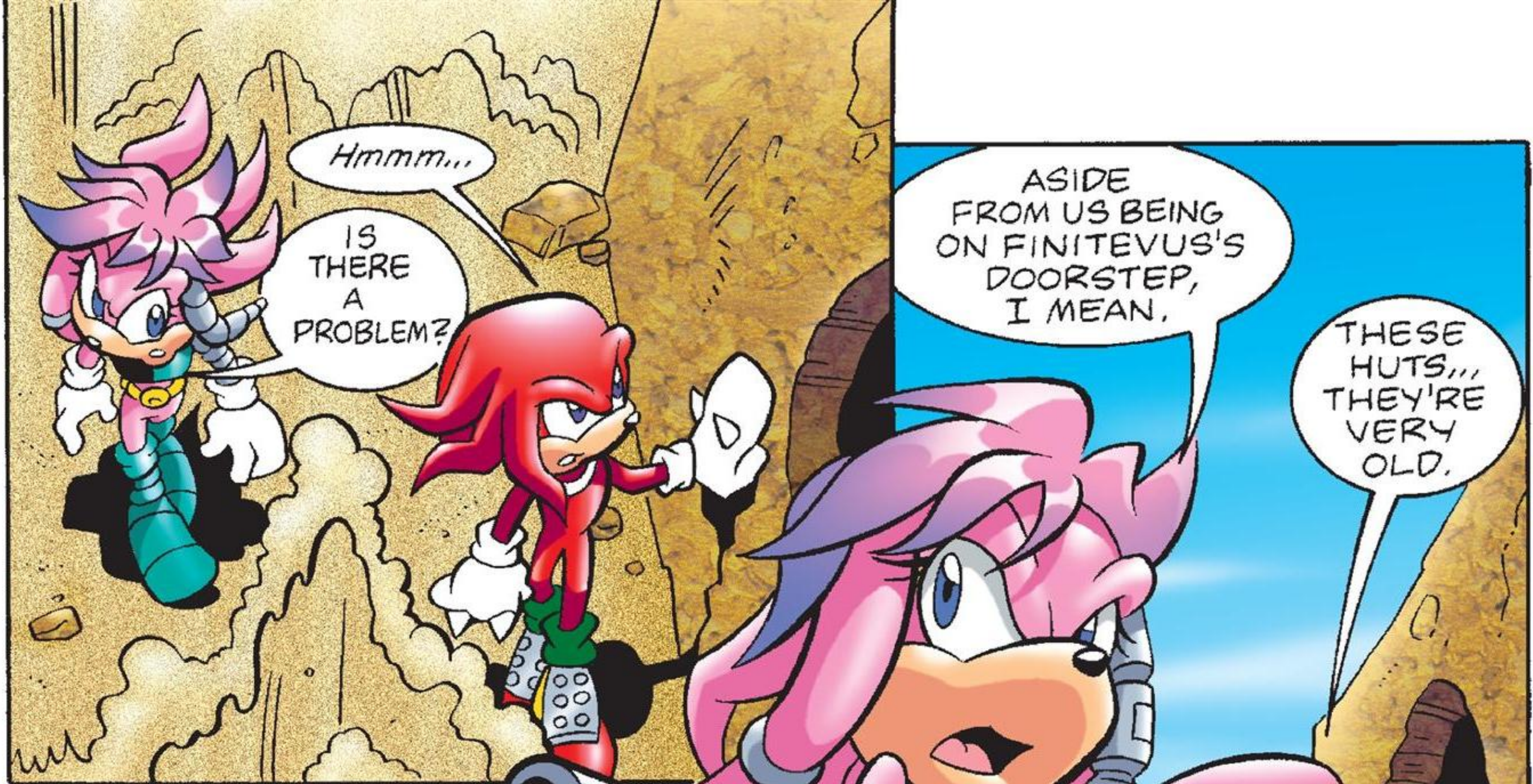
V-V-V-VECTOR!

HELP!









Hmmm...

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

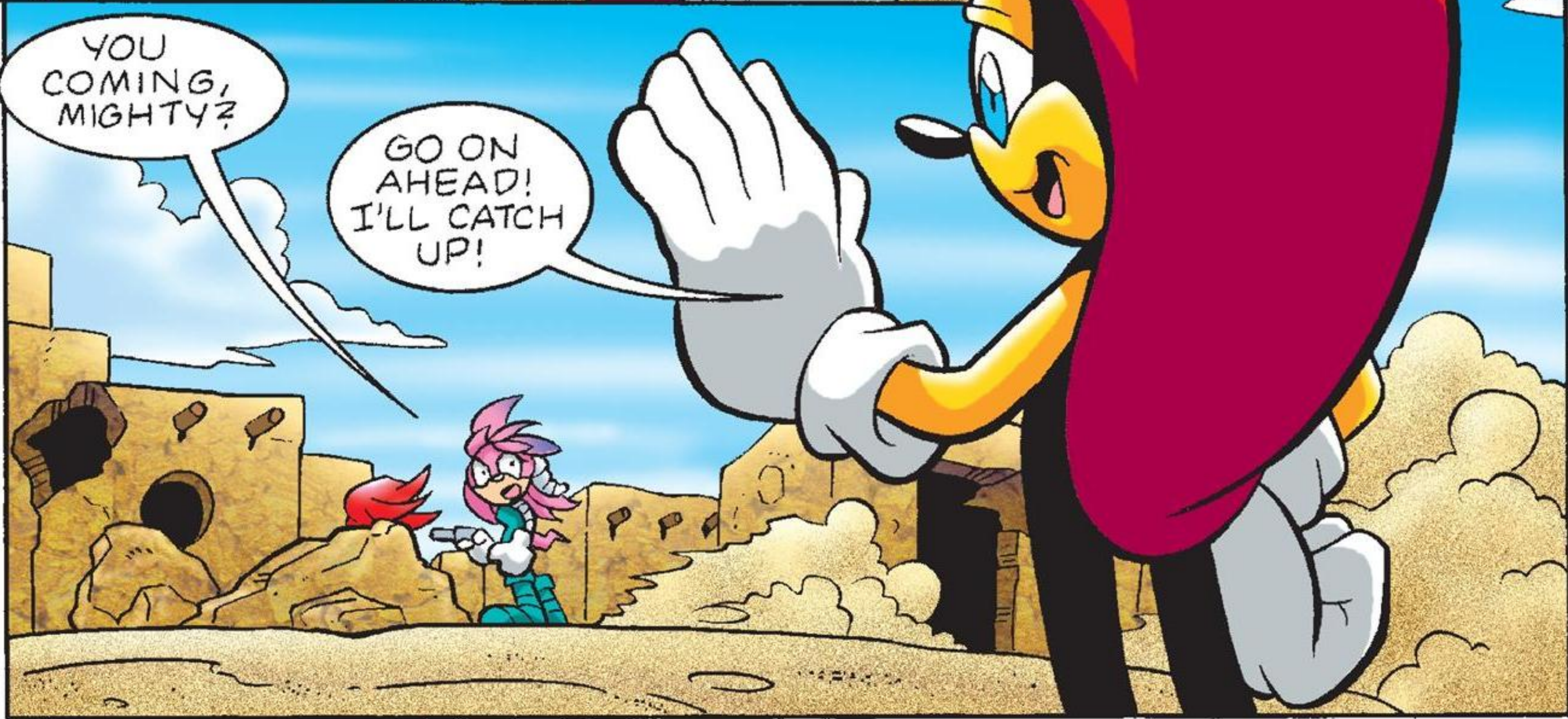
ASIDE FROM US BEING ON FINITEVUS'S DOORSTEP, I MEAN.

THESE HUTS... THEY'RE VERY OLD.

ANCIENT RUINS TEND TO BE,

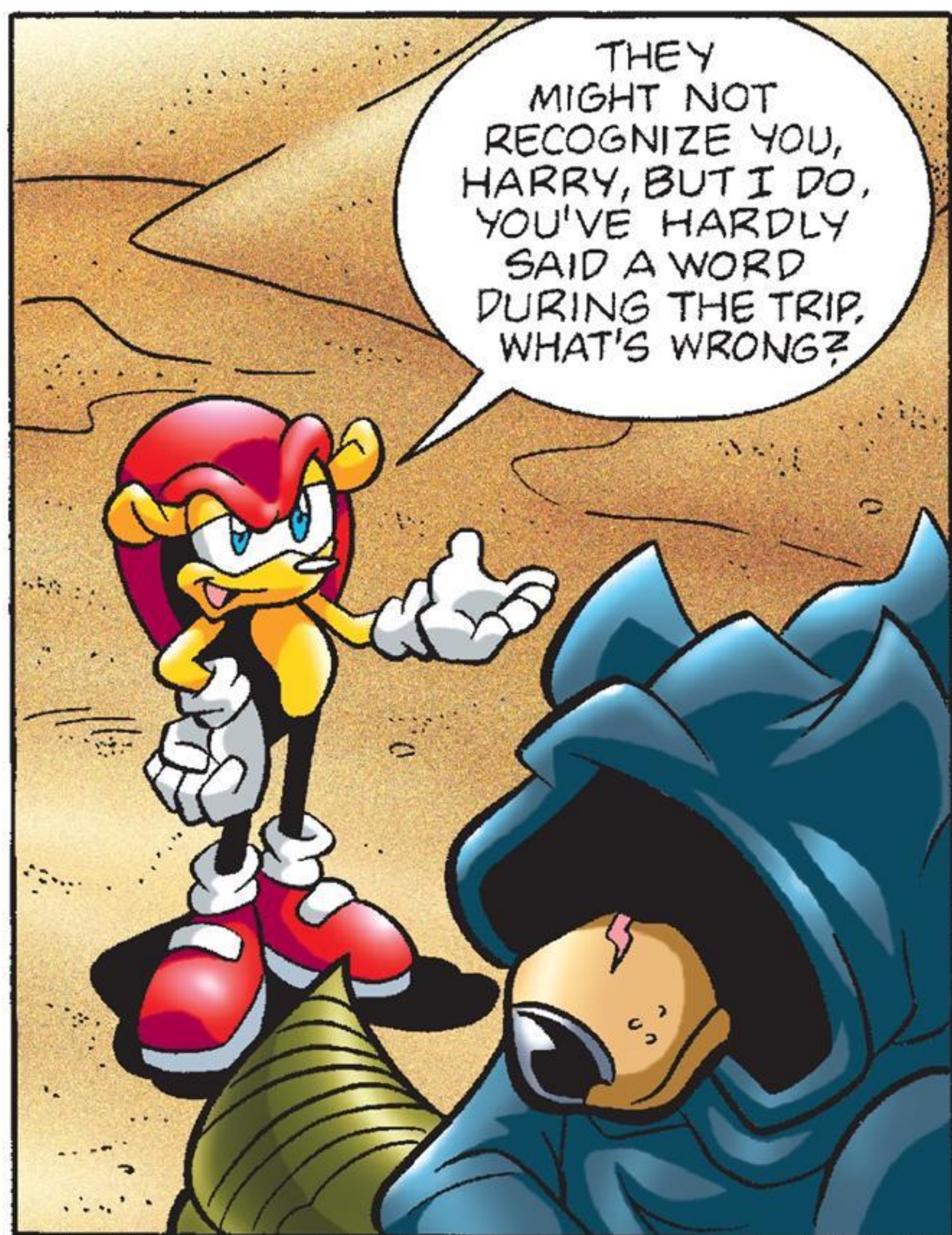


BUT THEY'RE NOT ECHIDNA-MADE, LET'S KEEP GOING. I WANT TO SEE MORE.



YOU COMING, MIGHTY?

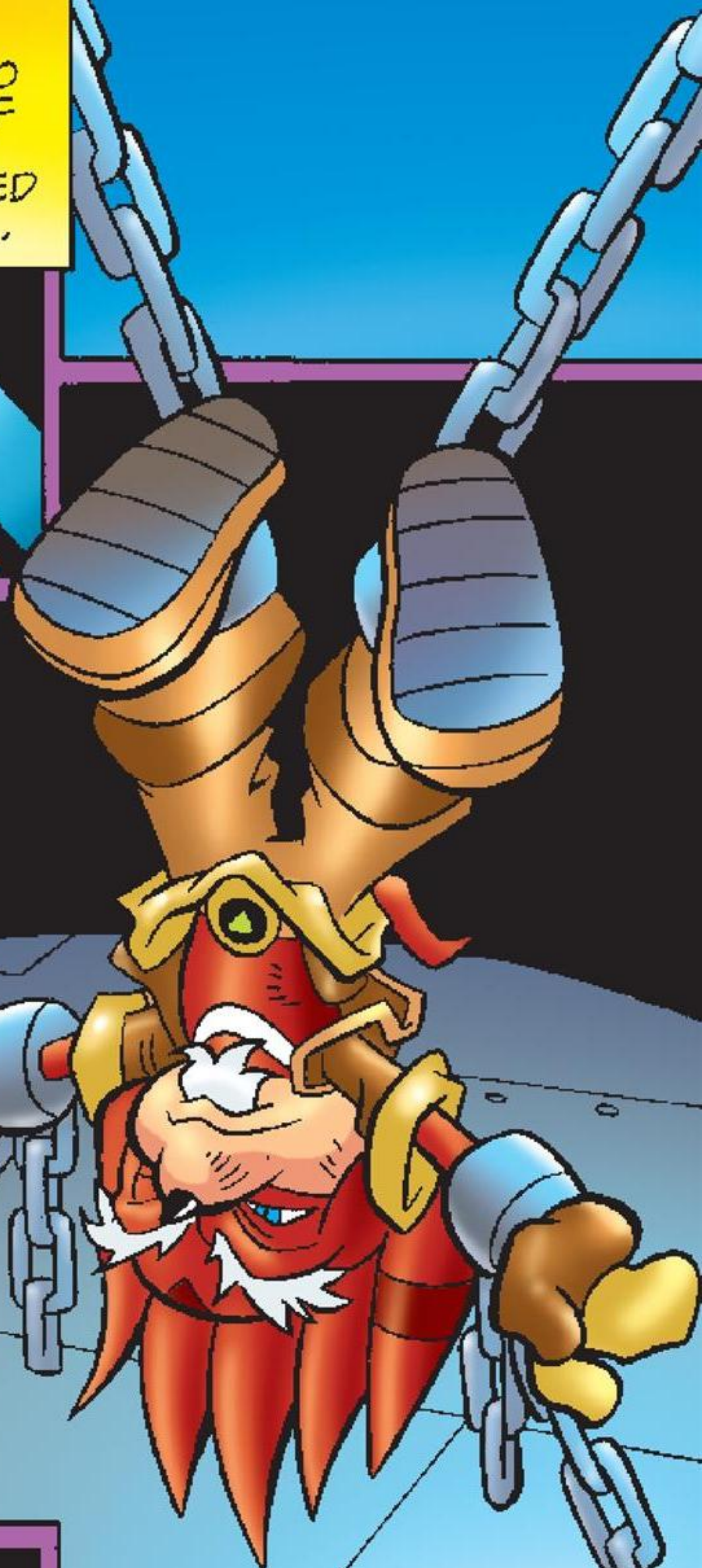
GO ON AHEAD! I'LL CATCH UP!





"THEN THE GENERAL'S SON, KAGE, TOOK OVER. I WAS FORCED BACK INTO THE ARMY, AND IF I'D BEEN SMART, I WOULD'VE PLAYED BY HIS RULES..."

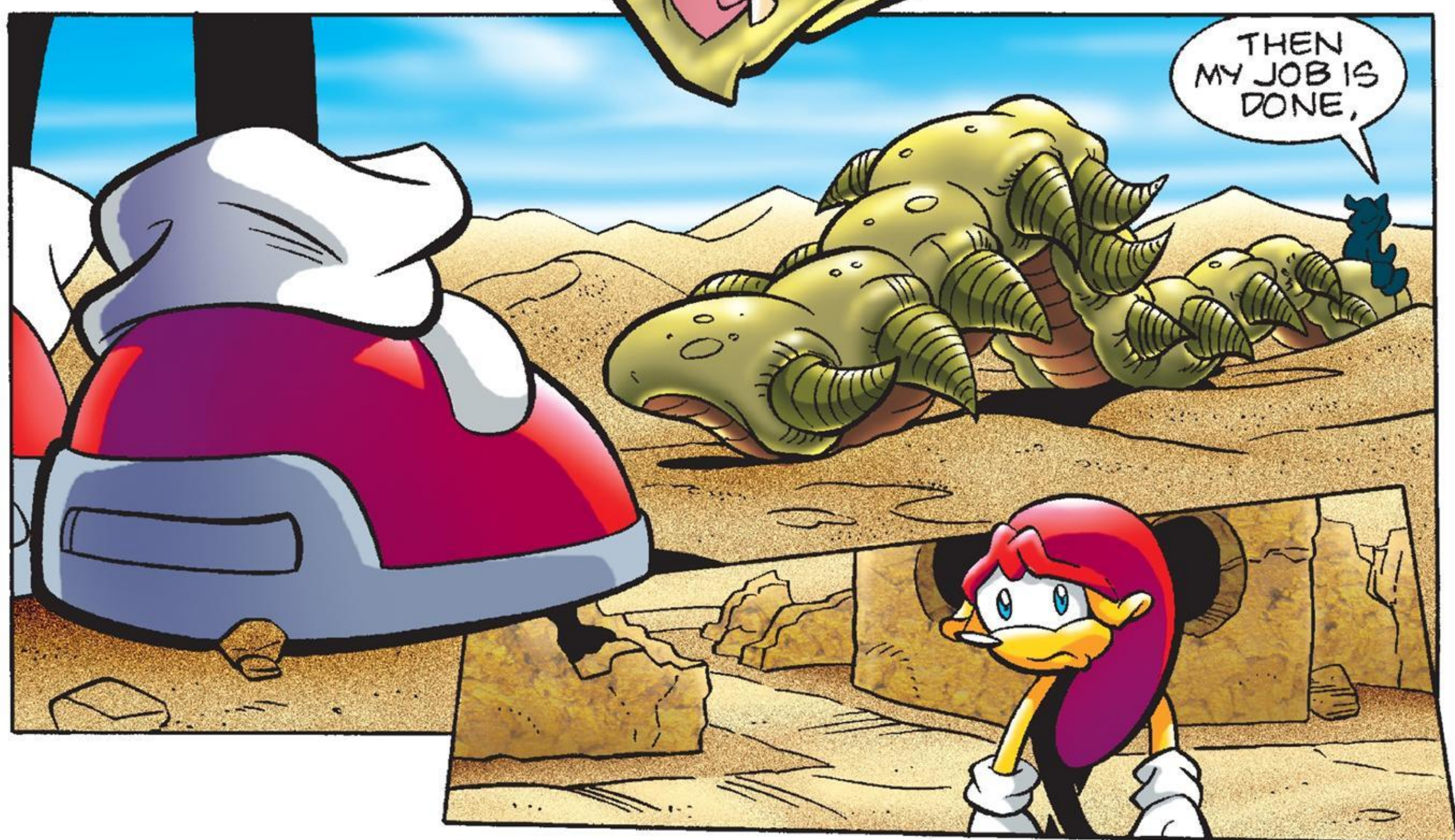
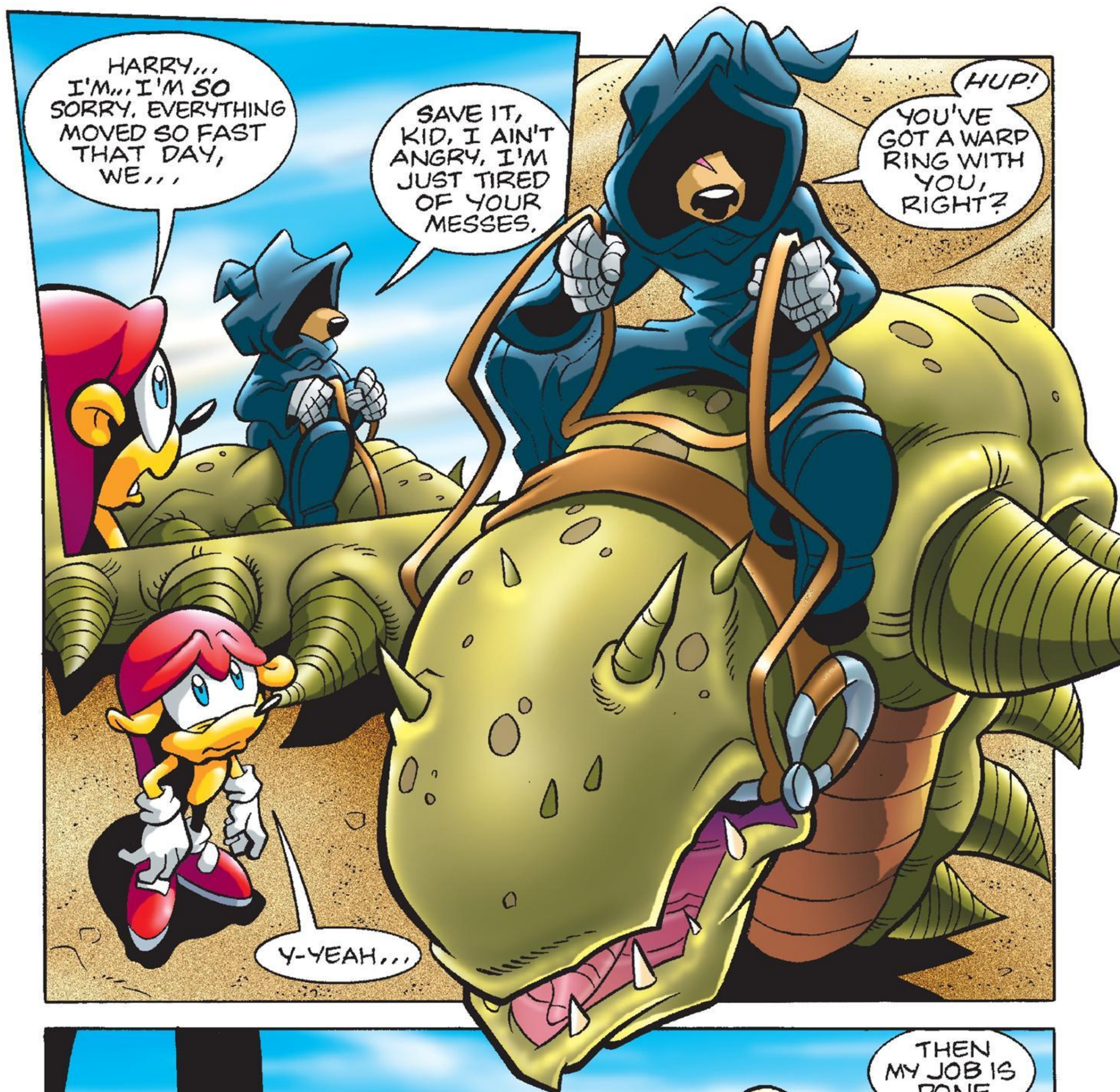
"INSTEAD, I HELPED THE GUARDIAN'S OLD MAN. I PLAYED SPY UP UNTIL YOU RESCUED HIM."

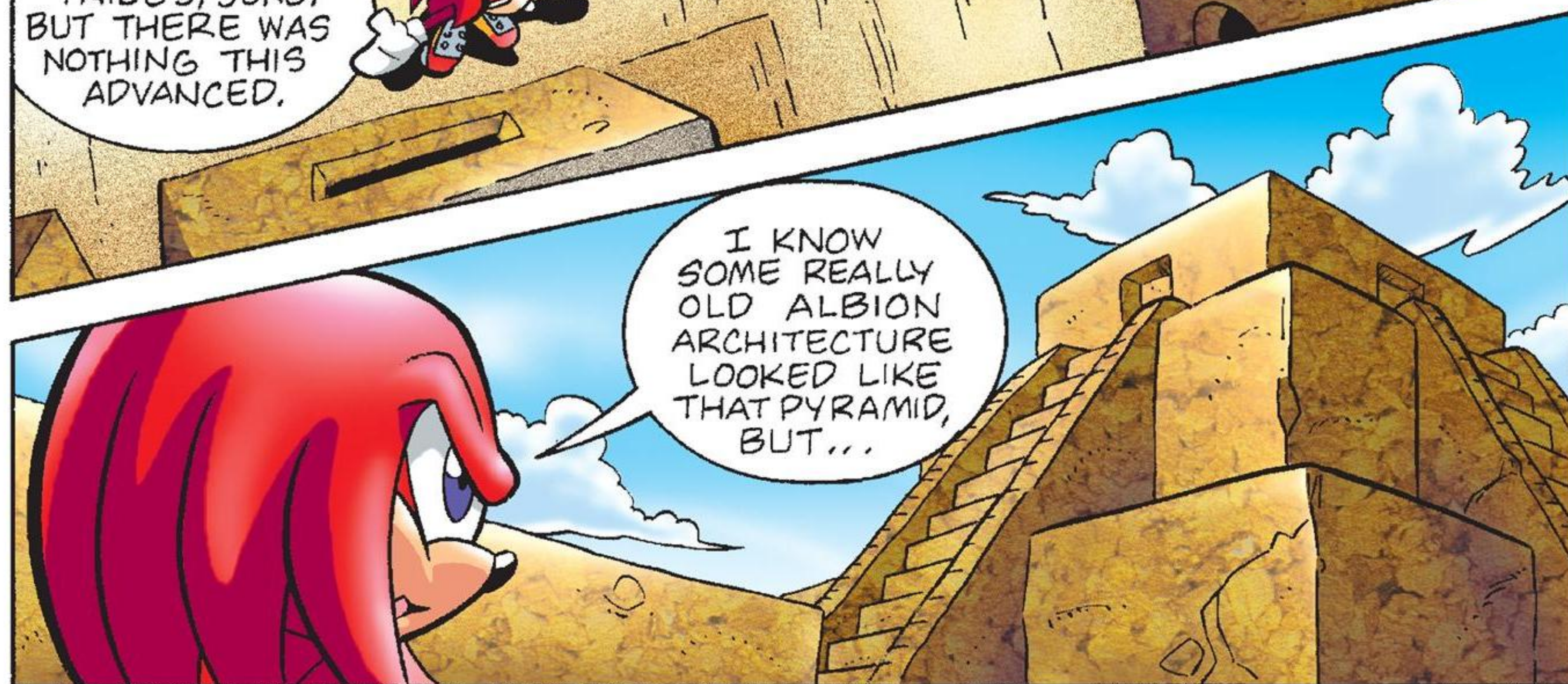
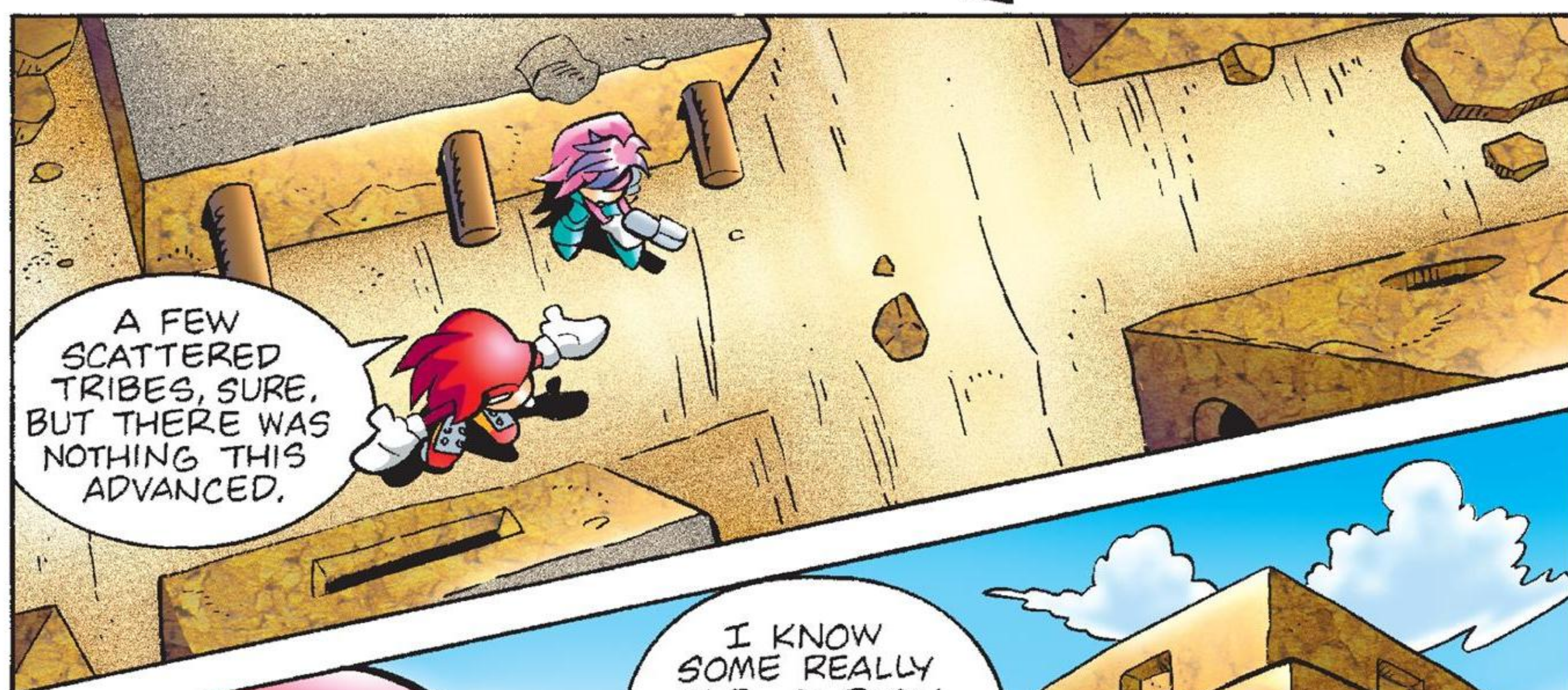
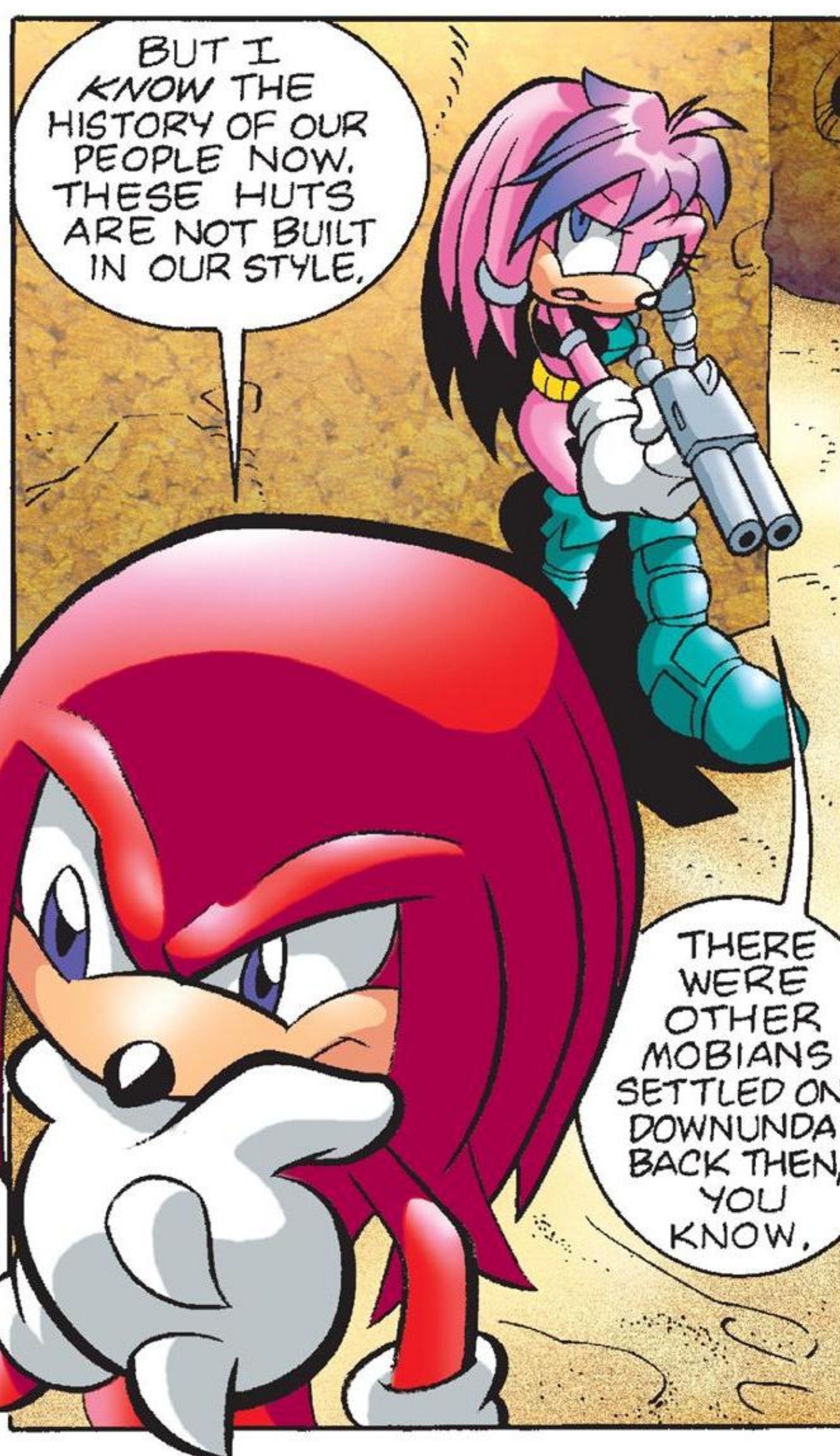
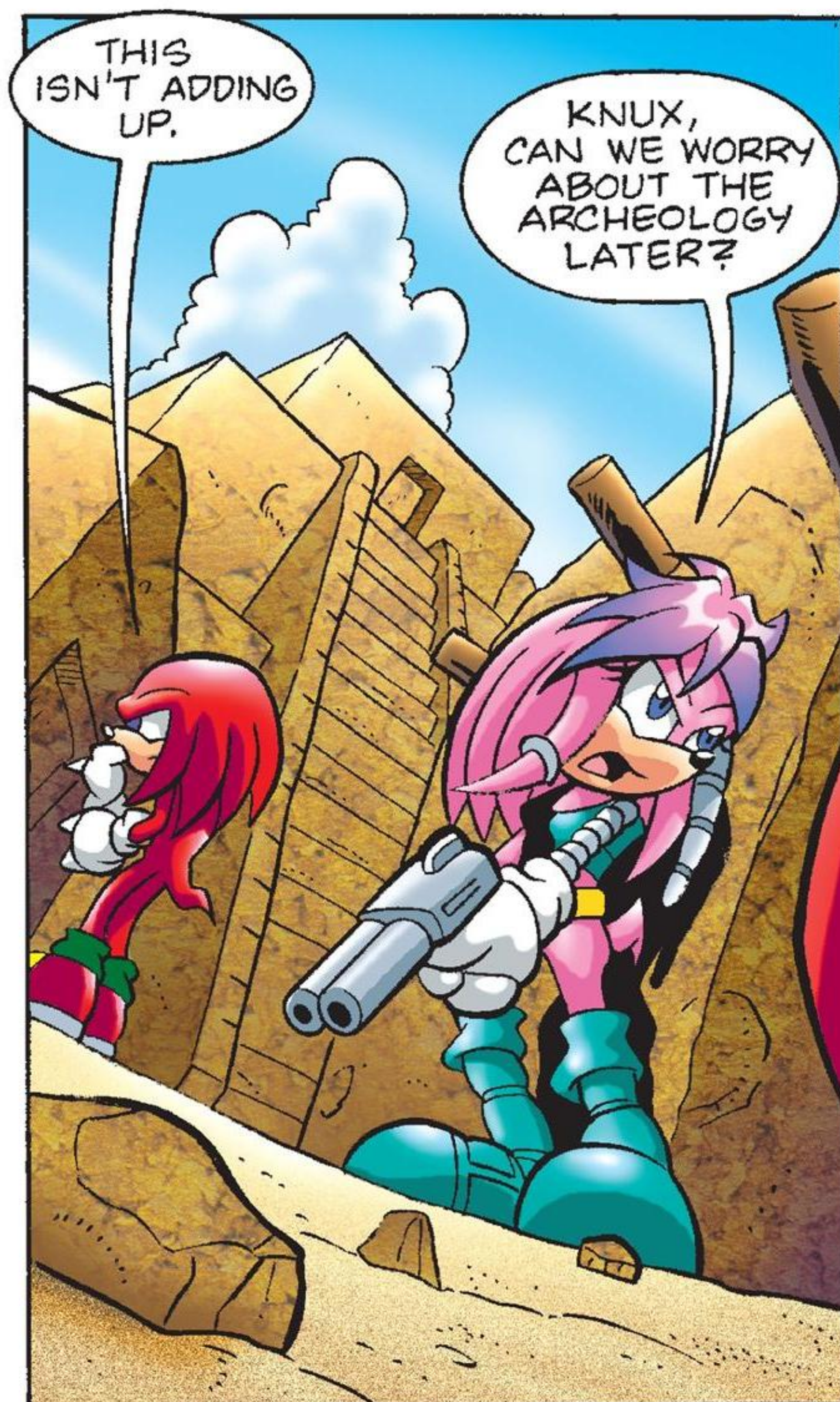


BUT YOU LEFT *ME* BEHIND, AND KAGE *WASN'T* HAPPY WITH ME.

BUT THEN ENERJAK TOSSED US OUT HERE. THE GENERAL TAKES CARE OF US NOW, CALLS ME A HERO TO HIS CAUSE, SO I'M STICKING WITH HIM,









NO, THAT DOESN'T WORK EITHER.

OKAY THEN, IT'S AN OLD ALBION SETTLEMENT. HAPPY NOW?

OH FOR THE LOVE OF... WHY?!

THERE WAS ONLY ONE ALBION COLONY, AND THAT TURNED INTO ECHIDNAOPOLIS!

THESE HUTS ARE TOO OLD, AND THEY AREN'T ECHIDNA-MADE! THE PYRAMID ONLY MAKES THINGS MORE CONFUSING!



THE ALBION CIVILIZATION WAS *ANCIENT*. IT'S POSSIBLE THERE'RE OTHER COLONIES OR PARTS OF HISTORY YOU JUST DON'T KNOW!

B-BUT...!

I SPENT SO LONG LOOKING FOR ANSWERS, AND ALL I LEARNED FROM THE BROTHERHOOD...



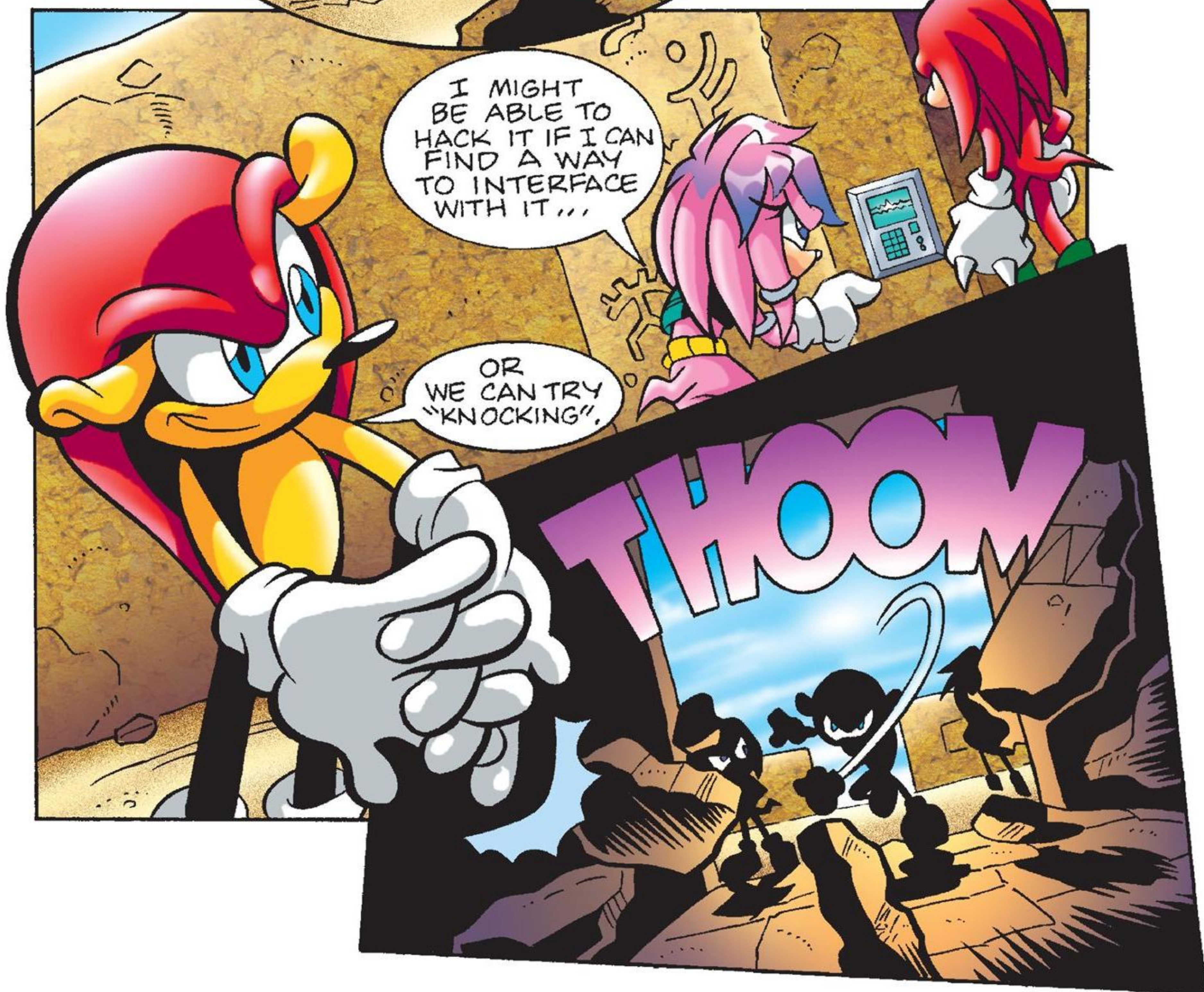
HEY GUYS?

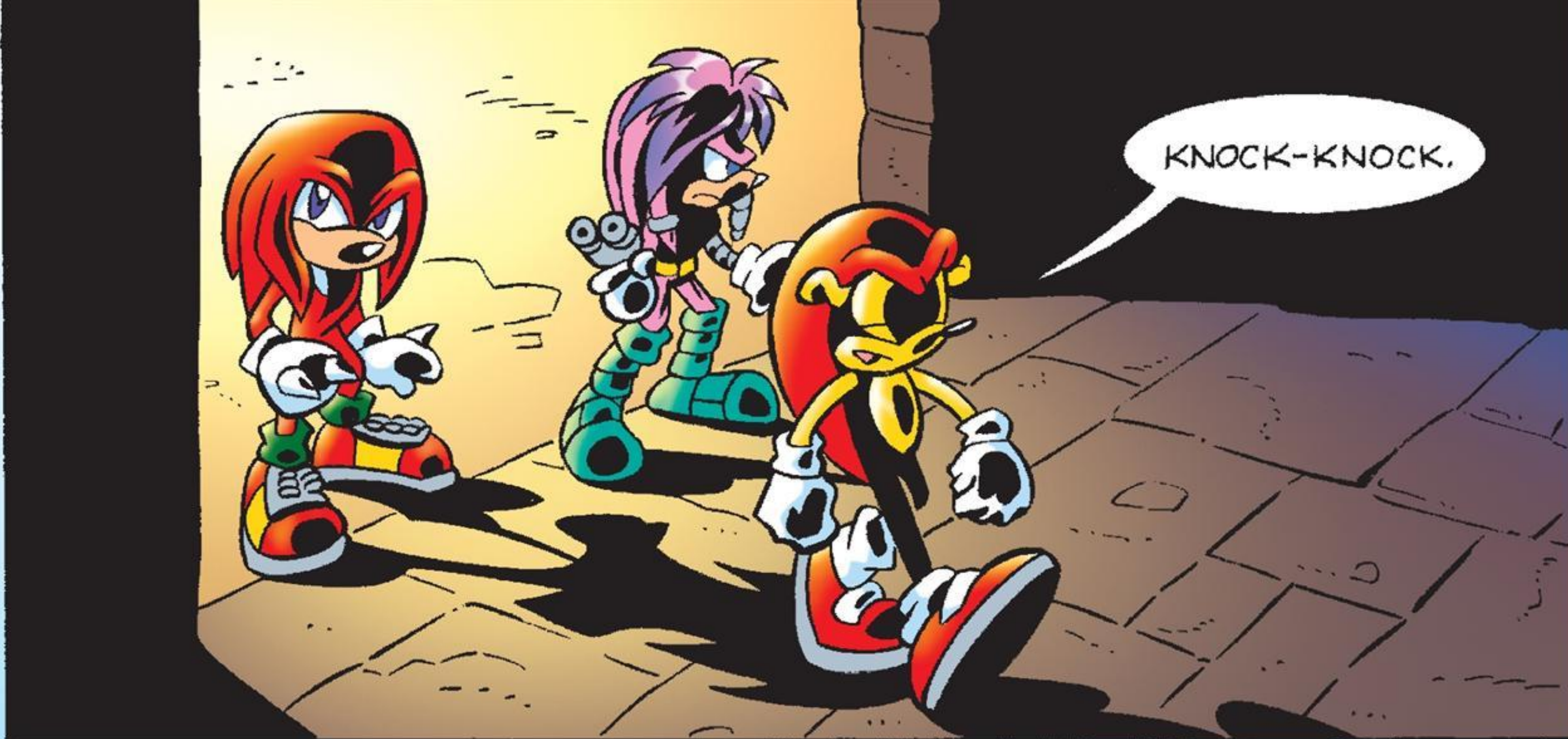
CAN WE GET BACK TO THE PSYCHO IN THE PYRAMID?



THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!

I'M NOT THROUGH WITH YOU.



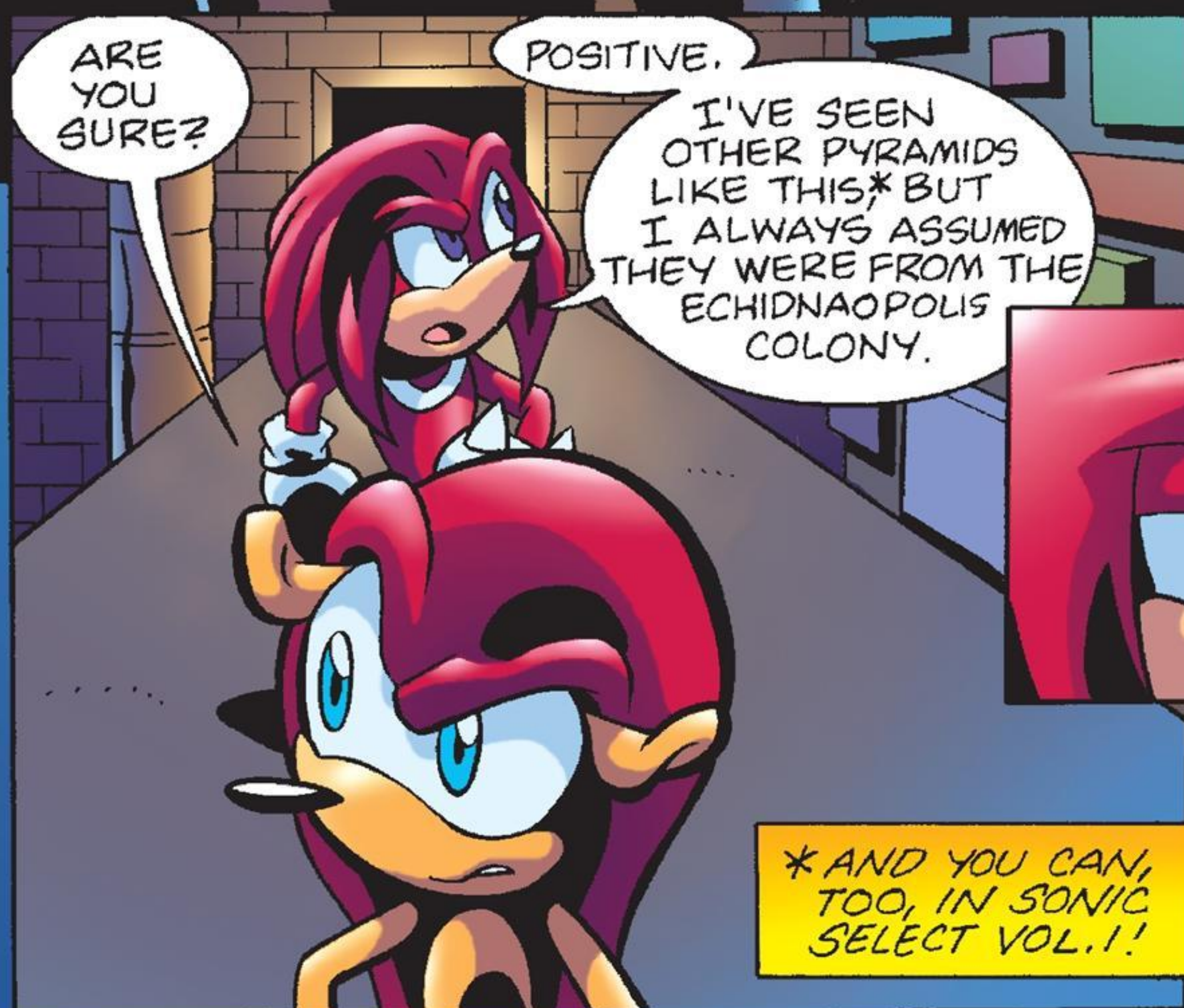


KNOCK-KNOCK.



THIS
IS AN OLD
ALBION
STRONGHOLD!

AN
ORIGINAL
INSTALLATION,
EVEN!



ARE
YOU
SURE?

POSITIVE.

I'VE SEEN
OTHER PYRAMIDS
LIKE THIS* BUT
I ALWAYS ASSUMED
THEY WERE FROM THE
ECHIDNAOPOLIS
COLONY.



WHY WOULD THEY
HAVE A RESEARCH-FORTRESS
BUILT IN THE MIDDLE OF
A PRIMITIVE DOWNUNDA
SETTLEMENT?

*AND YOU CAN,
TOO, IN SONIC
SELECT VOL. 1!



GUYS!
FINITEVUS!
FOCUS!

GEE, KNUX,
I THOUGHT
THAT AFTER YOU
HOOKED UP
WITH ALL YOUR
ANCESTORS
YOU GOT ALL
YOUR ANSWERS
ABOUT ECHIDNA
HISTORY.

APPARENTLY
SOMEONE'S *STILL*
KEEPING SECRETS
FROM ME.

WOW,
I'M NOT DOING
TOO WELL
TODAY.

REMEMBER,
HE'S A HOT-HEAD,
LET'S KEEP
MOVING.

MEANWHILE--
SHRINE ISLE

TH-TH-TH-THERE'S
T-T-T-TOO
M-M-M-MANY...!

KEEP IT
TOGETHER,
KID!

AAH!

WHAP

GRRK!







THE WALLS
ARE CLOSING
IN!

WE'RE
TRAPPED!

NOT
FOR LONG,
I WANT
ANSWERS!

**You have to escape alive first,
Knuckles!**

**And what about Vector and Ray
against the robot horde?**

**The mysteries deepen and the
stakes are raised next time in**

**SONIC
UNIVERSE!**